

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 2, line 26, with the following rewritten paragraph:

In the field of crop protection and, accordingly, also in the field of the control of harmful plants, there have been repeated attempts to enhance the use of properties of a given active compound, such as, for example, its activity spectrum, its persistence or the required application rate, for example by modified formulations or application methods. Thus, Weed Research, 1997, 37, 19-36, examines whether the activity of the herbicide chlorsulfuron can be enhanced and its tendency to leach can be reduced by using a controlled-release formulation. US 5,674,519 discloses that the tendency of certain crop protection agents including herbicides to leach in the soil can be reduced by a formulation in which the active compounds are present in microencapsulated form. Similarly, WO 98/05205 and US 5,543,383 describe a particular form of encapsulating crop protection agents which leads to an increased activity and a reduced susceptibility to leaching by rain. Furthermore, WO 99/26474 describes methods for releasing active compounds using cyclodextrins or carbohydrates. EP-A 0 517 669 discloses that the leaching behavior of agrochemicals can be improved by microencapsulation in polyester polymers. GB-A 1 041 028 provides mixtures of paraquat salts and fuller's earth having anticoccidial properties.

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 3, line 8, with the following rewritten paragraph:

Accordingly, it is an object of the present invention to make possible the use of post-emergence herbicides by the pre-emergence method. This object is achieved by herbicidal compositions, comprising an effective amount of one or more post-emergence herbicides and an amount of a carrier material from the group consisting of fullers earth, aerogels, high-molecular-weight polyglycols and polymers based on acrylic acid, methacrylic acid and copolymers thereof, with